

CONSUMER PROTECTION



WISCONSIN
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News

October 2002 Edition

Dear Wisconsin Children's Safety Advocates:

In September, 2002, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued a total of **three (3) recalls relating to products affecting children**. Attached is a summary of the releases identifying the product, problem and what should be done with the recalled product.

We have found that not all of the recalls are picked up by the news media as they occur. This monthly summary will give you the opportunity to review all of the children's product safety recalls for the past month.

If you are interested in a complete text of the recall, double click on the hyperlink at the end of the recall description. This will take you to the CPSC website and the actual recall notice. If you have other product safety questions you may call our toll free number at **(800) 422-7128 and then press "zero" (0) to speak with Product Safety**. You should leave your name, your organization's name and a phone number.

Following is a listing of the 3 "KIDS" recalls and safety advisories by title and identification number:

- ❖ XL Machine Ltd. is recalling Playskool Toy Chests Sold at Target. #02-243
- ❖ Team Beans LLC is recalling "Bottle Cap Bear" Key Chains. #02-244
- ❖ Huffy Sports Company is recalling Portable Basketball Hoops for Repair. #02-247

We hope you find this service of value and that it assists you to:

"KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE!"

KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE

Release Number: #02-243 XL Machine Ltd., of Eden Prairie, Minn., is voluntarily recalling about 3,300 toy chests. These blue toy chests measure 18.5-inches by 12-inches by 12-inches, and were sold under the Playskool brand name. On the toy chest lid top are depictions of "Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head" characters and the "PLAYSKOOL" logo. The front panel has a "Glow Worm" figure and a dog. The bottom of the toy chests contains "DISTRIBUTED BY: XL MACHINE LTD, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55347." The chests were made in China. Target stores sold the toy chest nationwide from October 2001 through December 2001 for about \$50.

Problem: Screws in the chests' lid support hinges can loosen over time, and come out from the base of the toy chests. If this happens, the lids of the toy chests can collapse suddenly, possibly causing injuries to children's head, neck, fingers or hands.

What to do: Consumers should take these toy chests away from young children immediately and return them to the Target store where it was purchased for a refund or store credit. For more information, contact XL Machine toll-free at (866) 746-8097 anytime, or go to Target's web site at www.target.com



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02243.html>

Release Number: 02-244 Team Beans LLC, of East Brunswick, N.J., is recalling about 8,000 "Bottle Cap Bear" key chains. The 4-inch "Bottle Cap Bear" key chains feature an auto-racing theme. The bears have white heads and tails, and hold a miniature "Coca-Cola" bottle in their left paws. The bears' outfits contain colors and insignia associated with selected professional racecar drivers. The featured driver's racing number is written on a bottle cap design on the

bear's front. The back of each bear has a patch that contains the words, "THE COCA-COLA™ RACING FAMILY," and a black and white checkered "Coca-Cola" bottle in the middle. Select auto racing souvenir shops and collectibles stores nationwide sold the key chains from January 2002 through July 2002 for about \$10

Problem: A miniature "Coca-Cola" bottle that attaches to the body of the plush bear key chain can come off, posing a choking hazard to young children.

What to do: Consumers should take the key chains away from children immediately, and return them to Team Beans for a refund or credit plus postage. Mail the item to Team Beans Forever Collectibles, Attention: Geoff Geruso - cc, 11 Elkins Road, East Brunswick, NJ 08816. For more information, contact Team Beans at (800) 450-5585 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02244.html>

Release Number: 02-247 Huffy Sports Company, of Sussex, Wis., is recalling about 70,000 portable basketball systems. These are portable, vertically mounted Huffy-brand basketball systems that come unassembled with a plastic base that is weighted down by either sand or water that is added during assembly. The basketball poles are painted black and the Huffy brand name appears on the backboard, main pole, or plastic base. The protruding bolt on the player side of the pole is located about 20-inches from the ground. Sporting good, department and toy stores sold the Huffy-brand portable basketball systems from November

2001 through May 2002 for between \$100 and \$200.

Problem: The basketball hoops can have a sharp protruding bolt on the player's side of the pole that can cause serious leg or body lacerations to consumers. Basketball players can be cut when they collide with the pole as they drive toward the basket or when they fall or are pushed into the pole.

What to do: Consumers should examine their units immediately. If there is a protruding bolt in the area of play, contact Huffy Sports to receive free bolt covers. Consumers can contact Huffy Sports at (800) 558-5234 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CST Monday through Friday or the firm's web site at www.huffysports.com



• <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02247.html>

If you would like to sign up for the Keep Your Kids Safe newsletter, please visit our webpage at <http://datcp.state.wi.us> or contact Michelle Reinen at (608) 224-4988 or michelle.reinen@datcp.state.wi.us. Please be sure to provide your name, telephone number and e-mail address.

If you have any questions or want to file a complaint regarding an unsafe product, contact:
WI Bureau of Consumer Protection,
Regulation & Safety Section
1-800-422-7128 (toll free in Wisconsin)

or (608) 224-4988